

her way into a different stage of her life. I am confident that Jenny will continue to be a role model for all, and I hope that she knows we are proud of her. New Hampshire is proud of her, our nation is proud of her, and we wish her nothing but the best in her future endeavors.●

COLUMBUS, GEORGIA'S HOUSE OF HEROES PROGRAM

● Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, there is a great outpouring of human generosity taking place in our great country that I must speak about here today. I was honored to be with my friends and colleagues, including the late Senator Coverdell, Representatives MAC COLLINS and SANFORD BISHOP, Columbus Mayor Bobby Peters, Col. Frank Helmick, along with Wayne Anthony of Hands On Columbus and many, many other volunteers, as we embarked on the historic event of initiating the House of Heroes program. This program should serve as a model to communities all across the country to provide needed assistance and support for aging veterans who bravely served their country and their families.

It is often said that "Poor is the nation who has no heroes. Poorer still is the nation which has them but forgets them." The House of Heroes project makes sure we don't forget this adage by having volunteers take up shovels, paint brushes and brooms to show not only our veterans, but also their families, that they are not forgotten. This past May at the home of Betty Cook of Columbus, in my state of Georgia, the House of Heroes was inaugurated by federal, military, and local officials to help serve as a reminder to younger generations of Americans how our nation's older men and woman veterans have proudly served and sacrificed for their country to help preserve our freedom. The inauguration ceremony reminded us all that honor, valor, and sacrifice come not only from service members, but from their spouses and family as well. While Mrs. Cook's husband served his country as a medic in World War II, she fought the war at home. She supported their family on her own, while encouraging her husband to press on in battle overseas. Hundreds of thousands of G.I.'s fought for their families, sustained by the love they were getting from home. Victory was never won alone.

The House of Heroes program relies on people who volunteer their services to repair and improve the home of a veteran and/or their spouse as an act of appreciation from the Congress of the United States and people of this nation. I am especially proud of those who contributed their time, effort and energy to help bring this project to fruition. It was especially uplifting to have witnessed the hard work that was put into the project. I would like to express my gratitude to each and every volunteer who made this worthy event the great success that it was.

I strongly support H. Con. Res. 395 that expresses the sense of the Congress that the House of Heroes project in Columbus, Georgia, should serve as a model for public support for the Nation's veterans and strongly agree with everything this resolution represents. I especially thank Representative MAC COLLINS for introducing this worthy legislation.

Today, Columbus, Georgia, remains home to thousands of service members and their families stationed at Ft. Benning and Columbus has always been a critical area for our nation's defenses, both past and present. The initiation of the House of Heroes program proves that from beginning to end, this remarkable city is home to some remarkable people. This event is only the beginning for the House of Heroes program as communities across the nation will begin to undertake their own House of Heroes programs modeled after the great program that the fine people of Columbus started.●

A TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN WILLIAM JAMES BUSHAW

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Captain William James Bushaw, who is retiring from the United States Navy after nearly 30 years of service. Captain Bushaw leaves behind a legacy of versatility and consistency, as he has consistently been successful in whatever area he has been asked to perform.

Upon graduating from the University of Michigan, Captain Bushaw attended Navy Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island. He was commissioned as an ensign May 14, 1971, receiving the award of Distinguished Naval Graduate.

While on active duty, Captain Bushaw served as the Gunnery Officer aboard the U.S.S. *Joseph Strauss*. From January of 1972 until August of that same year he participated in several combat operations in Vietnam, including Operation Freedom Train, Operation Linebacker and Operation Notification Line. During these operations, U.S.S. *Joseph Strauss* fired over 15,000 rounds of ammunition, earning the Navy Unit Citation. Captain Bushaw himself earned the Navy Achievement Medal with Combat V and the Combat Action Award.

Following active duty Captain Bushaw transferred to the selected reserve. As a drilling reservist, he served as Commanding Officer of three Navy reserve units and Executive Officer of two other units. For his efforts, he received a Navy Commendation Medal.

Captain Bushaw currently serves as the Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer to the Governor of the State of Michigan, representing the United States Navy in all issues of emergency preparedness. He recently received the State Legion of Merit award from the Adjutant General of the Michigan National Guard.

I applaud Captain Bushaw on nearly thirty years of extraordinary service to

our Nation. I know that the United States Navy will greatly miss his leadership, as will the many men he has commanded. On behalf of the entire United States Senate, I thank Captain William James Bushaw for his service, and wish him the best of luck in retirement.●

IN TRIBUTE TO FRANCIS BROWN

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a great Mainer and one of the most outstanding individuals I have had the good fortune to know, Francis Brown of Calais, ME.

There are many rewarding aspects to public service, not the least of which is the opportunity to meet people like Francis Brown. It has been my privilege to call Francis a friend for more than two decades now, and I know the people of Downeast Maine share my high regard and deepest respect for this devoted family man who has given so much of himself to the community and state he loves.

Francis is a leading citizen of Calais. He exemplifies the kind of values and ideals we frequently associate with those small towns throughout the country where neighbors still help neighbors, and where service to others is the standard by which a man or woman is measured. Indeed, for Francis, the concept of service is one indelibly woven through the fabric of his life.

As a student at the University of Maine, my alma mater, Francis spent four years in the ROTC program, and went on to serve in World War Two as a Radar Officer and in Korea as a member of the military police. Having more than fulfilled his duty to his country, Francis nevertheless later volunteered as an Army reservist with the Maine Army National Guard from 1946 until 1967, when he retired with the rank of Major.

When he was not serving his country in the armed forces, Francis was working on behalf of his fellow Mainers not only in his law practice but as a long-time and well-respected city solicitor. As is typical of his nature, however, Francis was not content to allow his efforts in the practice of law alone—significant as they were—define his commitment to the community.

Giving generously of his time and talents, Francis has touched many lives and has made an indelible and positive mark on his beloved Washington County and the State of Maine. He was a member of the Advisory Committee to the Maine Supreme Judicial Court on Criminal Rules of procedure for thirteen years. A long-time active and integral member of the Calais Rotary Club, he earned distinction as a Paul Harris Fellow in 1976.

Emblematic of his commitment to and interest in education, Francis brought his tremendous wealth of knowledge and experience to his service on the University of Maine Board of Trustees for more than a decade. And

as a man whose faith has always been central to his life, he has served his beloved United Methodist Church in Calais as a trustee for many years.

Not surprisingly, Francis has been recognized with many awards over the years, including the Arlo T. Bates Award for Outstanding Community Service from the Calais Chamber of Commerce, the prestigious Jefferson Public Service Award, and the University of Maine Presidential Achievement Award.

And just as predictably, Francis has never been very impressed by all the recognition and adulation. For him, good deeds are always to be done for their own sake. Acts of kindness are made because that is simply the proper way to live one's life, not because they may bring personal glorification. Indeed, Francis is one of the most genuinely decent and humble people I have known.

Most of all, he is quite simply a wonderful person to be around. I would dare say there was never a person who has met Francis who does not like Francis. His generous spirit could warm even the coldest Maine day, and his humor could shine good cheer into the darkest of times. How thankful we are for such gifts as those he has so selflessly given to us.

Today, it is our turn to return the favor. With Francis having fallen ill in recent times, the hearts of many go out to him as do our prayers. It is not likely that any of us will be able to fully repay the debt of gratitude we feel to this beloved friend, neighbor, and fellow Mainer. But we certainly feel compelled to try.

The great American author Ralph Waldo Emerson once wrote, "to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived—this is to have succeeded." By that measure, Francis Brown is unquestionably one of the most successful people I know, and I want him to know that I am proud to call him a friend.●

THE 150TH BIRTHDAY OF ST. CLEMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH IN CENTER LINE, MICHIGAN

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize St. Clement Catholic Church in Center Line, Michigan, which will celebrate 150 years of service to the Warren and Center Line communities with an anniversary mass on October 15, 2000. The story of St. Clement is one of continual adaptation and growth, but through it all the spirit that existed in 1850 remains today, for the church has never strayed from its original purpose of teaching the timeless lessons of faith and love.

The perfect illustration of how important St. Clement is to the Warren and Center Line communities can be seen in how many times it has been forced to be reconstructed. In 1857, a school was added to the church. After expansions to the original building in 1868 and 1879, the growing size of the

congregation forced a new building to be constructed in 1880. In 1922, a new school had to be built to accommodate the growing number of students, and, ultimately, another school was constructed anew in 1953. In May of 1960, ground broke on the present church building. It is an extraordinary piece of architecture, a Cruciform-shaped structure with a 65 foot high vaulted ceiling, gables that form a cross, hundreds of stain-glassed panes, a main altar of imported marble, a seating capacity of over 1,600 worshippers and two cry rooms.

An essential part of the success of St. Clement Church has been its leadership. From 1868-1890, Father William Hendrix guided the growing church to the point where it had firmly established its presence as the center of social activity in the Warren and Center Line communities. From 1890-1929, Father John Kramer's devotion to improving education was essential not only to having the new school be built, but also to filling it with nearly 400 students. Father Alexander Mayer guided the parish through the Depression, World War II and the Korean War, and his leadership enabled the church to make it through years of financial hardship.

Father Timothy Edward Murray oversaw the building of the third St. Clement Church, as well as set up a program where St. Clement Schools became involved in a shared-time program with Center Line Public Schools. In 1976, Father James Murphy returned a warmth and camaraderie to the parish. From 1992-97, the Rev. Dr. Arthur J. Jacobi, Jr.'s many skills both as an educator and as a professional businessman helped to lead St. Clement both spiritually and financially. And today, Father Ron Victor continues in this strong tradition of leadership, overseeing the growth and adaptation that is a necessary part of any church's history, while at the same time shepherding his parish on its continuous mission of faith and love.

For 150 years, St. Clement Catholic Church has been an essential part of the Warren and Center Line communities. It has been a constant source of leadership within these communities, and has guided them through both good and bad times. It has also provided thousands of children with a solid foundation upon which to grow and become upstanding members of their own communities. On behalf of the entire United States Senate, I congratulate St. Clement Catholic Church on 150 successful years of leadership and growth, and wish the church continued success in the future.●

OLYMPIC SWIMMER B.J. BEDFORD

● Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and honor B.J. Bedford, a gold medalist for the 2000 United States Olympic Swim Team and originally from the town of Hanover in my home state of New Hampshire. B.J.

has been a competitive swimmer in national standings for years. She competed in the 1988 Olympic trials when she was just 15 years old. After three Olympic trials and a successful 12 year career in domestic competition, B.J.'s hard work has paid off this year as she secured a spot on the U.S. Swim Team for the 2000 Summer Games.

B.J.'s participation in the XXVII Olympiad certainly adds to a long and illustrious career in swimming. B.J. Bedford has qualified and competed in four Olympic trials, winning the 100 meter backstroke this year, set an American record in the 50 meter backstroke, and won seven U.S. National Titles in the 50, 100 and 200 meter backstroke and two gold medals for relays at the 1998 World Championships. On September 23, 2000, B.J. Bedford became the holder of a new world record. Swimming the backstroke leg of the 4 x 100 meter medley relay, B.J. and three of her teammates won gold in Sydney and smashed the previously held world record by an incredible three seconds.

Her outstanding work in the pool, along with her display of dedication to her sport and her country, have helped to make the U.S. Swim Team more successful than any other country at the Sydney Games. The United States won 33 medals in swimming, tying its highest total since 1984. B.J. Bedford was an important part of this overall team victory, as her experience undoubtedly made her a leader in the pool. B.J.'s athleticism, drive and determination have allowed her to claim her place in history. She has made both New Hampshire and the country proud, and I am confident that B.J. will be successful in all that she chooses to do.

I would like to congratulate B.J. for her fine work at the Olympics, for the excitement that she brought to Americans this summer, and for her gracious representation of the United States. She is a positive role model that will be looked up to by younger swimmers, and for that, she should be proud. We wish her nothing but the best in all of her future endeavors.●

IN RECOGNITION OF CORE CITY NEIGHBORHOODS IN DETROIT, MICHIGAN

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Core City Neighborhoods of Detroit, Michigan, which will hold its 16th Annual Meeting and Dinner on October 12, 2000. In its sixteen years, Core City Neighborhoods has been a leader in the field of community development, serving and supporting the residents and small businesses of Southwest Detroit in an exemplary manner.

The mission of Core City Neighborhoods is to strengthen the social and human development of the Southwest Detroit community while at the same time helping to spur the physical and economic development of the area. The organization does this through a variety of programs, focusing on such